

**BEFORE THE IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

<b>IN THE MATTER OF THE JOINT</b>	)	
<b>APPLICATION OF QWEST CORPORATION</b>	)	<b>CASE NO. QWE-T-04-15</b>
<b>AND CTC TELECOM, INC. FOR APPROVAL</b>	)	
<b>OF AN AMENDMENT TO A WIRELINE</b>	)	
<b>INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT</b>	)	<b>ORDER NO. 29667</b>
<b>PURSUANT TO 47 U.S.C. §252(e)</b>	)	

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In this case the parties jointly submitted an Application for approval of the amendment of an existing interconnection agreement. The Commission is asked to approve the amendment of the interconnection agreement pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 252(e).

**BACKGROUND**

Under the provisions of the federal Telecommunications Act of 1996, interconnection agreements must be submitted to the Commission for approval. 47 U.S.C. § 252(e)(1). The Commission may reject an agreement adopted by negotiations only if it finds that the agreement: (1) discriminates against a telecommunications carrier not a party to the agreement; or (2) implementation of the agreement is not consistent with the public interest, convenience and necessity. 47 U.S.C. § 252(e)(2)(A). As the Commission noted in Order No. 28427, companies voluntarily entering into interconnection agreements “may negotiate terms, prices and conditions that do not comply with either the FCC rules or with the provision of Section 251(b) or (c).” Order No. 28427 at 11 (emphasis in original). This comports with the FCC’s statement that “a state commission shall have authority to approve an interconnection agreement adopted by negotiation even if the terms of the agreement do not comply with the requirements of [Part 51].” 47 C.F.R. § 51.3.

**THE CURRENT APPLICATION**

On December 9, 2004, Qwest and CTC jointly filed an Application for approval of the amendment of their existing interconnection agreement. The Application states that the parties are jointly filing and that this Amendment was reached through voluntary negotiations without resort to mediation. The Agreement amends the terms, conditions, and rates for Local Number Portability (LNP) as set forth in Attachment 1 and Exhibit A to the Amendment.

## STAFF RECOMMENDATION

The Staff has reviewed the Application and Agreement and did not find any terms or conditions to be discriminatory or contrary to the public interest. Staff believes that the Amendment is consistent with the pro-competitive policies of this Commission, the Idaho Legislature, and the federal Telecommunications Act of 1996. Accordingly, Staff believes that the Amended Agreement merits the Commission's approval.

## COMMISSION DECISION

Under the terms of the Telecommunications Act, interconnection agreements must be submitted to the Commission for approval. 47 U.S.C. § 252(e)(1). The Commission's review is limited, however. The Commission may reject an agreement adopted by negotiation only if it finds that the agreement discriminates against a telecommunications carrier not a party to the agreement or implementation of the agreement is not consistent with the public interest, convenience and necessity. *Id.* Additionally, companies voluntarily entering into interconnection agreements "may negotiate terms, prices and conditions that do not comply with either the FCC rules or with the provision of Section 251(b) or (c)." Order No. 28427 at 11 (emphasis in original); 47 C.F.R. § 51.3.

Based upon our review of the Application and the Staff's recommendation, the Commission finds that the agreement is consistent with the public interest, convenience and necessity and does not discriminate. Therefore, the Commission finds that the agreement should be approved. However, approval of this agreement does not negate the responsibility of either of the parties to this agreement to obtain a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity if they are offering local exchange services or to comply with *Idaho Code* §§ 62-604 and 62-606 if they are providing other non-basic local telecommunications services as defined by *Idaho Code* § 62-603.

## ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the amendment of the interconnection agreement between Qwest Corporation and CTC Telecom, Inc., Case No. QWE-T-04-15, is approved.

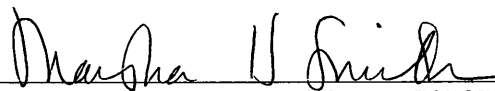
THIS IS A FINAL ORDER. Any person interested in this Order (or in issues finally decided by this Order) may petition for reconsideration within twenty-one (21) days of the service date of this Order. Within seven (7) days after any person has petitioned for

reconsideration, any other person may cross-petition for reconsideration. See *Idaho Code* §§ 61-626 and 62-619.

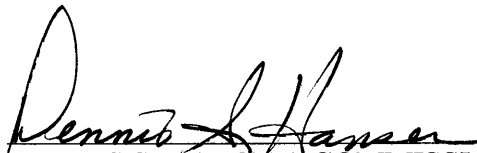
DONE by Order of the Idaho Public Utilities Commission at Boise, Idaho this 29<sup>th</sup> day of December 2004.



PAUL KJELLANDER, PRESIDENT

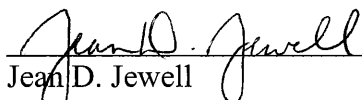


MARSHA H. SMITH, COMMISSIONER



DENNIS S. HANSEN, COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:



Jean D. Jewell  
Commission Secretary

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